

Health News Release

For immediate release: May 29, 2015 (15-085)

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King County nurse suspended for stealing prescription medications

OLYMPIA — A King County nurse's credentials have been immediately suspended by state health officials due to drug allegations.

The Nursing Commission alleges that Cynthia A. Brown (AP30004753 and RN00130329) used her registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner licenses, status, and expertise to fraudulently obtain controlled substances for herself over a four-year period. Charges say Brown called-in prescriptions under fictitious names and stole authorizations from other health care providers. She had previously entered a drug monitoring program; however, Brown has now violated the conditions of the program.

She has 20 days to contest the suspension. Brown cannot work as an advanced registered nurse practitioner or registered nurse until the charges are resolved.

The documents in this case can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider license" on the Department of Health's website. Copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call that number to report their complaint.

The Nursing Commission protects public health and safety in Washington by regulation of nursing practice. The commission establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency and discipline.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.